

Robt. Kennedy, Hoover Feud Over 'Bugging'

FBI Chief Accused
His Former Boss
Was Responsible

WASHINGTON, June 10 (AP)—Robert Kennedy, U.S. attorney general, today accused J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, of being responsible for the FBI's eavesdropping activities in the case of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Kennedy, in a letter to Hoover, said that he had been "informed" by the FBI that it had been eavesdropping on him since he was elected to the Senate in 1964.

The department...

Kennedy's Denial

Kennedy, who had been in the hospital since June 5, today denied that he had been eavesdropped on by the FBI. He said that he had been "informed" by the FBI that it had been eavesdropping on him since he was elected to the Senate in 1964.

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Last week, Rev. H. R. Gross (R-Iowa) wrote Hoover asking if he had received an authorization from the attorney general for eavesdropping in the Las Vegas case and in the case against Washington public relations man Fred B. Black, Jr., an associate of former Senate aide Bobby Baker. It was the Black case that was at issue here.

fore the Supreme Court.

Hoover's Letter

Hoover promptly replied in a letter made public today. He said that Kennedy, while attorney general, had not only known of FBI eavesdropping in criminal cases, but that it was "increased" at Kennedy's insistence while he was in office.

Kennedy promptly denied Hoover's allegation. In a statement issued by his office, he said the FBI director was "misinformed." He also made public a letter from Courtney A. Evans, former FBI official who had been in charge of the eavesdropping activities, to Kennedy, dated June 10, 1964, in which he said that he had been "informed" by the FBI that it had been eavesdropping on him since he was elected to the Senate in 1964.

Mr. Evans said that he had been "informed" by the FBI that it had been eavesdropping on him since he was elected to the Senate in 1964.

Hoover responded yesterday with a statement in which he said that Kennedy would make a statement. He issued three previously confidential memoranda from FBI files, which he said showed that the eavesdropping activities were known to and approved by Mr. Kennedy. Two of the memos bore Evans' name.

The Last Word

Kennedy fired back with a statement that "although Hoover says that this activity intensified while I was attorney general, it implies that it was known to and approved by Mr. Kennedy. The fact is that I never discussed this highly important matter with me."

"Since Mr. Hoover is selectively making documents public, I suggest that he make his entire file available and indicate under which attorney general this practice began, whether any prior attorney general authorized it and whether or not they were as uninformed as I was," the New York senator said.